

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 10 - 12 and enter new Claims 16 – 20.

In response to the Official Action and in accordance with 37 CFR 1.121(c), please enter the following rewritten claims.

1. *(Original)* A method for the presentation a work to a user, comprising the steps of:
 - (a) obtaining a base work;
 - (b) selecting at least one randomization position within said base work;
 - (c) selecting, for at least one of said randomization positions, a plurality of alternative content segments associated therewith;
 - (d) for any randomization position so selected, randomly selecting one of said plurality of alternative content segments associated therewith; and,
 - (e) performing said base work and any alternative content segments so selected, said alternative content segments replacing at least a portion of said base work during said performance.

2. *(Original)* An apparatus for the presentation of a work to a user according to Claim 1, wherein said base work and said alternative content segments are stored on a computer-readable medium positionable to be in electronic communication with said apparatus, comprising:
 - (a) a microprocessor, said microprocessor being in electronic communication with said computer-readable medium, said microprocessor at least for processing information read from said computer-readable medium;

- (b) computer memory in electrical communication with said microprocessor, said computer memory containing at least a plurality of computer instructions defining the method of Claim 1, said plurality of computer instructions for execution by said microprocessor;
 - (c) an output interface, said output interface being in electrical communication with said microprocessor and receiving information therefrom for purposes of presenting said base work and said alternative content segments to the user according to said plurality of computer instructions executed by said microprocessor; and,
 - (d) a display device in electrical communication with said output system, said display device for presenting said base work and any selected alternative content segments to the user.
3. *(Original)* An apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein said computer memory is selected from a group consisting of RAM, ROM, EPROM, PROM, and flash RAM.
4. *(Original)* A method according to Claim 1, wherein at least one of said alternative content segments is a content segment taken from said base work.
5. *(Original)* A method according to Claim 1, wherein said base work is selected from the group consisting of a movie, a video recording, a musical work or a computer game.

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6. *(Original)* A method according to Claim 1, wherein step (e) comprises the step of displaying said base work and any alternative content segments so selected on a video display, said alternative content segments replacing at least a portion of said base work during said performance.
7. *(Original)* A method according to Claim 1, wherein each of said alternative content segments contains a plurality of computer instructions therein, and wherein step (e) comprises the steps of
 - (e1) executing an interactive computer program until one of said randomization positions is reached,
 - (e2) executing any computer instructions contained within said selected alternative content segment associated with said reached randomization position.
8. *(Original)* A method according to Claim 7, wherein said base work is a video game.
9. *(Original)* A method according to Claim 1, wherein step (a) comprises the step of defining a base work.
10. *Cancelled.*
11. *Cancelled.*

12. *Cancelled*

13. *(Original)* A method for the presentation of a work to a user, wherein is provided

a base work,

a logic tree associated with said base work, said logic tree defining at least one randomization point within said base work, and,

a plurality of alternative content segments for use with said base work and said logic tree, at least two of said plurality of alternative content segments being associated with said at least one randomization point,

comprising the steps of:

- (a) reading at least a portion of said base work;
- (b) reading at least a portion of said logic tree;
- (c) performing said base work for the user at least until said at least one randomization point is reached;
- (d) selecting randomly among said at least two alternative content segments associated with said randomization point;
- (e) reading said selected alternative content segment; and,
- (f) performing said selected alternative content segment for the user.

14. *(Original)* A method according to Claim 13, wherein said base work is chosen from the group consisting of a movie, a video recording, a musical work or a computer game.

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15. (Original) A method according to Claim 13, wherein the step (a) comprises the step of reading said base work into computer RAM.
16. (New) A method of preparing a work for presentation to a user, comprising the steps of:
- (a) selecting a base work;
 - (b) selecting at least one randomization position within said base work;
 - (c) for each of said at least one selected randomization positions, selecting a plurality of alternative content segments associated therewith, wherein
 - (c1) each of said selected alternative content segments is interchangeable at said randomization point
 - (c2) each of said alternative content segments has a pointer associated therewith, and,
 - (c3) each of said alternative content segments has a probability associated therewith;
 - (d) storing within a logic tree a marker representative of each of said selected randomization positions;
 - (e) for each of said selected alternative content segments, storing said associated pointer and said associated probability within said logic tree, wherein each of said stored pointers and said stored probabilities is associated with a stored marker within said logic tree;
 - (f) storing said base work in a first computer-readable medium;
 - (g) storing said selected alternative content segments in a second computer-readable medium; and,

- (h) storing said logic tree in a third computer-readable medium, thereby preparing the work for presentation to the user.
17. (New) A method of preparing a work for presentation to a user according to Claim 16, wherein said first computer-readable medium, said second computer-readable medium, and said third computer-readable medium are all a same computer-readable medium.
18. (New) A method of preparing a work for presentation to a user according to Claim 16, comprising the further steps of:
- (i) reading said base work from said first computer-readable medium;
 - (j) reading said alternative content segments from said second computer-readable medium;
 - (k) reading said logic tree from said third computer-readable medium;
 - (l) presenting said work to the user by:
 - (11) using said markers within said logic tree to determine said randomization positions,
 - (12) sequentially playing said work for the user,
 - (13) as each of said randomization points is reached, randomly selecting from among said alternative content segments associated with said reached randomization point according to said probabilities associated with each of said alternative content segments.

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- (14) playing for the user said randomly selected alternative content segment
instead of a corresponding portion of said work, and,
 - (15) after said played alternative content segment has ended, continuing to play
said work for the user until either a next randomization point is reached or
an end of the work is reached.
- 19. (New) A method according to Claim 16, wherein said base work is selected from the
group consisting of a movie, a video recording, a musical work or a computer game.
- 20. (New) A method according to Claim 16, wherein each of said probabilities associated
with said alternative content segments of step (c3) is a same probability.

AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 10 – 12 have been cancelled.

New Claims 16 through 20 have been added to make clearer the invention claimed by the applicant. As is indicated in paragraph [31] of the instant specification, in a preferred embodiment each alternative content segment will have a (potentially different) probability associated therewith, the probability relating to the likelihood that a given segment will be chosen during playback. The newly offered claims cover this embodiment and, as such, do not constitute new matter.

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